

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
March 20, 2008

MINUTES

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Held at:

City Administration Building
202 C Street
Committee Room, 12th Floor
San Diego, California 92101

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Director
202 C Street, MS 37C
San Diego, California 92101

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Chair
Michael Stepner, Vice Chair
Bruce Brown
Rick Bussell
Vicki Granowitz
Norman Greene
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Wilbur Smith

Members Absent

Roz King
Dan Mazzella
Evonne Schulze

City Staff Present

Gary Stromberg
Chris Zirkle
Kim Davies
Sue Pelley
Jo-Ann Novak

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Ms. Barnes called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2008

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve the January 17, 2008 meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous, with Mr. Smith abstaining, and Ms. King, Mr. Mazzella, and Ms. Schulze absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2008 WORKSHOP

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Greene/Mr. Brown

A motion was made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the February, 2008 workshop meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous, with Mr. Smith abstaining, and Ms. King, Mr. Mazzella, and Ms. Schulze absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee Community Parks I

- Ms. Barnes reported that the main topic was a discussion on service levels. Area Committee

Community Parks I would like the Recreation Councils to send a letter or petition to the Mayor and City Council requesting that all Recreation Centers hours of operation be restored throughout the City of San Diego.

- In the past Recreation Councils were allowed to set up recycling programs and use these funds for recreation programs. Due to a legal ruling by the City Attorney's Office, Environmental Services is not allowed to return these funds unless the funds go towards environmental items. Ms. Barnes requested a report from staff on this subject for the next meeting.

Area Committee Community Parks II

- Ms. Barnes reported that the committee discussed their concerns on service levels of landscape maintenance at various facilities.

Balboa Park Committee

- Ms. Granowitz reported that on a March 8, 2008 a public workshop based on four authors of a report on Balboa Park was attended by 150 people from the public. The public used the entire allotted two hours for comment.
- Currently Balboa Park Committee is in the process of putting together a time line to bring individual experts to discuss financial issues and models for governance of public parks.
- Mingei project will be moving forward this summer.
- The change to the alcohol ban for the park is waiting to be docketed at City Council.

Design Review Committee

- Mr. Smith reported that Fiesta Island had nine separate motions dealing with 23 separate items and will defer reviewing these items until this project comes before the Park and Recreation Board.

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Brown reported that the last meeting held was on January 17, 2008 and the next meeting will take place March 20 at 7:00 p.m.
- Committee received an update on ranger station project and are expecting 90% complete construction documents later this month.
- Committee is gathering data to update the master plan.

Mission Bay Park

- Mr. Bussell reporter that they did not meet in March due to lack of noticing. February meeting minutes are posted on website.
- Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – No report

Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee

- Mr. Bussell attended his first meeting last night and reported that as an outreach to the community the committee will hold Tecolote Canyon Day at Mesa College on May 3, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Committee is currently collecting bids for replacing the Kumeyaay Indian structure as a welded steel frame structure.
- There have been sightings during the day of birds, rattlesnakes, hawks, and coyotes.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

COMMUNICATIONS – Ms. Puentes-Reynolds distributed an invitation to the 7th Annual Induction Ceremony of the San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame on Saturday, March 29, 2008 at Price Center Ballroom, UCSD at 5:00 p.m.

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Corinne Wilson – concerns include opportunities for public input, fair process and service levels within Managed Competition. She encouraged the Park and Recreation Board to invite Anna Danegger, Business Office Director, to do a presentation on Managed Competition to become more knowledgeable in this process. Distributed Mayor Sanders Fact Sheet dated February 5, 2008 and summary of overall process of Managed Competition.

Carolyn Chase – invited all to EarthFair on April 20, 2008 in Balboa Park. Concerned about loss of large exercise area for people and dogs at Fiesta Island. Ms. Chase urged the Park and Recreation Board to go out and visit Fiesta Island leash free area. Ms. Chase read a letter from Laura Schultz to Mayor Jerry Sanders regarding proposed modifications to Fiesta Island. This letter was e-mailed to Park and Recreation Board Members.

Dr. Jean Spengel – concerned about the lost active exercise area due to roads, parking lots, Tot Lots, fences and other barriers. Request Park and Recreation Board Members to see Fiesta Island current fence area on their own or with a FIDO representative.

Mr. Don Steele – comments include: urging Park and Recreation Board Members not to be shy about making their own recommendation to the proposed budget; programs for at risk communities should be enhanced; and building of parks should be in the parks department. Mr. Steele recommended allocating Environmental Growth Fund Bonds Debt money to Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Balboa Park, Open Space Park Ranger Program, fund a master plan for Presidio Park and funding for a Historian position.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Ms. Barnes thanked everyone for their input and dialogue at the February Park and Recreation Board Workshop.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mr. Stromberg, Assistant Park and Recreation Department Director was in attendance for Stacey LoMedico and reported on the following:

- Circulated several favorable articles: Ms. Leslie Robinson, Recreation Specialist, show children with physical disabilities how to use a handcycle at the El Cajon unit of the California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program; a thank you letter to San Diego City Parks employees for the past seven months in maintaining park safety at the Crown Point area; e-mail from General Services thanking Park and Recreation Arborist, Michael Marika, for the prompt response in removing tree branch blocking access to the Civic Center Plaza area; article in local newspaper on hosting 2008 U.S. Open in June; article in national magazine on the revamping of Torrey Pines golf course for a successful municipal golf course, home of the professional Golf Association (PGA) Tour's Buick Invitational and hosting the U.S. Open in June. Several thank you letters to staff for helping out at the Buick Invitational in cleaning up after the storm the night before the event.
- Reminded all Park and Recreation Board Members to complete Statement of Economic Interests that are due on April 1, 2008.
- Reminded all that City offices are closed on Monday, March 31st in observance of Cesar Chavez Day.
- A request was made for an update on the De Anaza Cove mobile home park resident issue. The City Attorney is still working on this sensitive issue and there is no further update at this time.
- Otay Valley Staging and Trail System Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place on March 17, 2008.
- Cortez Hill/Tweet Sweet Park Grand Opening took place on March 13, 2008 which is a Centre City Development Corporation project.
- Introduced Elmer Heap, Deputy Chief of Community Services who is responsible for the oversight of the Customer Services, Environmental Services, Library and Park and Recreation Departments.
- At the April Park and Recreation Board meeting the only agenda item will be to discuss the Proposed Fiscal Year 2009 Budget.

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CONSENT – None

ACTION ITEMS – None

INFORMATION ITEMS –

201. Update on Downtown Parks and Recreation

Ms. Nancy Graham, President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Mr. Dean Coker, Advance Planning Manager Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC) provided a

brief history of Centre City Development Corporation.

Mr. Coker provided a proposed parks map that includes existing CCDC parks. This plan was adopted in 2006 and is an approximately \$400 million dollar plan.

Mr. Mark Caro, an experienced Park Planner recently hired by CCDC, will be the liaison to the City of San Diego and to the Park and Recreation Board.

CCDC has its own Citizen's Advisory Group called Centre City Advisory Committee that makes recommendation to CCDC Board and present to City Council who approve actual expenditures.

Mr. Caro and Mr. Coker plan on attending future Park and Recreation Board meetings.

202. Open Space Division Overview of Open Space Land

Mr. Chris Zirkle, Open Space Division Deputy Director and Ms. Sue Pelley, Senior Park Ranger, presented a comprehensive overview of Open Space and Maintenance Assessment District activities.

Ms. Pelley presented and narrated a Powerpoint presentation depicting Department activities in the canyon system.

Mr. Brown requested a presentation on brush management. Mr. Zirkle recommended all to review the updated Park and Recreation webpage for detailed information on the Open Space Division.

Ms. Puentes-Reynolds thanked the Open Space staff for their work.

Mr. Smith and Ms. Granowitz voiced their concerns regarding the homeless situation in the canyon and parks.

Ms. Barnes concerns include having recreational sites for families to use Open Space areas and illegal encroachment of citizens on Open Space areas.

203. Obesity Study Partnership with San Diego State University/Park and Recreation Department Update

Hua Chang, Intervention Coordinator provided an update on the recruitment process on behalf of Ms. Jamie Moody, Project Manager, San Diego State University Research Foundation MOVE/me Muevo. Ms. Chang distributed a business letter and news letter to Park and Recreation Board Members. Currently, the MOVE/me Muevo Project are recruiting for families for the following sites:

Number of Families	Site Location
3	Serra Mesa
1	Kearny Mesa
6	Mountain View
2	Pacific Beach
9	South Clairemont

Ms. Chang has sent out flyers to the local elementary schools and expect to have recruitment complete by April and to begin phase two and three. Ms. Chang encouraged all staff to utilize open communications if they should feel over burdened or have any concerns regarding this program.

Ms. Barnes requested Mr. Stromberg to send an e-mail to staff to remove all other literature pertaining to other obesity studies from the recreation centers.

204. Board Policies Review

Mr. Stromberg, Assistant Park and Recreation Director will provide the Park and Recreation Board with a draft to the following Park and Recreation Board Policies: permit process, park signs, trees, and green policy. Mr. Stromberg would like more definition to the following policies: 1001 Naming of Parks and Recreation Facilities; 1002 Gifts of Architectural Features; Works of Art and Commemorative Plaques for Public Parks or Other City-Owned Land; 1006 Vending in City Parks and Signage in Parks.

Ms. Barnes would like to send a letter with these policies out to the community committees and do an outreach to identify the problems and request their input.

Mr. Bussell is interested in the use of reclaimed water. Mr. Stromberg reported that in the newer parks reclaimed water is used if available.

Ms. Davies suggested that the Park and Recreation Board invite Ms. Carolyn Wormser Director of Special Events to provide information on special events permits so she may hear the Park and Recreation Board concerns on alcohol usage.

Ms. Davies reported that she will be re-writing the noise permit ordinance.

205. Park Inventory Overview

Mr. Stromberg, Assistant Park and Recreation Director provided the Park and Recreation Board with an overview of the Park Inventory.

Mr. Greene would like an update of Wightman Street along with other projects as to whether they have been completed and issues solved. One example is the Naval Training Center basketball court issue. Ms. Barnes suggested that when the request for agenda items come from Ms. Novak that Park and Recreation Board Members should request updates on parks and these updates may be included in the Directors Report.

WORKSHOP - None

STANDING UPDATES

Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) Update – None

ADJORNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Regular Park and Recreation Board Meeting: **Thursday, April 17, 2008 2:00 p.m.**

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Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director